

**September 19th & October 3rd : Cannes – Portofino –  
Propriano – Stintino – Calvi – Bandol – Saint Tropez –  
Cannes**

**All tours are offered with English speaking guides. The length of the tours and time spent on the sites is given as an indication as it may vary depending on the road, weather, sea and traffic conditions and on the group's pace. Minimum number of participants indicated per coach or group.**

**The level of physical fitness required for our activities is given as a very general indication without any knowledge of our passenger's individual abilities. Broadly speaking to enjoy activities such as hiking, biking, snorkelling, boating or other activities involving physical exertion, passengers should be fit and active. Passengers must judge for themselves whether they will be capable of participating in and above all enjoying such activities.**

**All information concerning excursions is correct at the time of printing. However Star Clippers reserves the right to make changes, which will be relayed to passengers during the Cruise Director's onboard information sessions.**



## CANNES, FRANCE

**Scenic transfer to Nice airport (ends at Nice airport)**

Transport by air conditioned minibus

Minimum 4 participants, maximum 8 per minibus

Duration approximately 3h30

€75

Unaccompanied transfer with an English speaking driver

You will drive straight on to St Paul de Vence, a few kilometres past Cannes. This authentic medieval fortified village was built on a hill top so as to avoid Saracen attacks. In the 1920's it was discovered by artists such as Bonnard, Modigliani, Signac and Soutine, and since that time it has attracted a good number of the rich and famous literati and glitterati.

You will have approximately one hour at leisure to go round the village before driving to the airport. Stroll down Rue Grande, the main street which runs right through the village and explore the XVI° century ramparts which afford spectacular views over mimosa, olive and orange groves.

Your luggage will go with you in the minibus

**« Follow your nose » Tour (ends at Nice airport)**

Visit Grasse the world's perfume capital

Transport by air-conditioned minibus

Unaccompanied visit of a perfume factory

Minimum 4 participants, maximum 8 per minibus

Duration approximately 3h30

€ 84

Transfer with an English speaking driver – no guide.

Ever since the 17th century Grasse has been enveloped in a heady cloud of perfume; today the town is the universally acknowledged perfume capital of the world.

After a 45 minute drive you will arrive in Grasse where you can visit the prestigious Gallimard factory and be initiated into the art of traditional perfume making. Follow each step from the assembling of raw materials to the final precious elixir, piercing the mysteries of distillation and enfleurage on the way. You will visit the laboratory and the conditioning room where you will learn about the origin of perfume. You will also discover the "seat of power", the work place of the indispensable "Nose". This olfactory genius is a Maestro who plays his perfume organ with incredible virtuosity, composing fragrances of unsurpassed subtlety and charm. Some "insider" secrets will be revealed before its time to visit the gift shop to do some last minute shopping before flying back home. (not a guided visit)

If you don't feel like visiting the factory you can set off on your own to discover this fascinating town. The Place aux Aires at the heart of Grasse is a good starting point. This charming square with its ochre façades, arcades and four tiered fountain dating from Louis XV's time is always bustling with activity, and boasts many interesting shops, outdoor cafés and restaurants. The Old town is a maze of narrow winding streets, alleys and stairways with buildings from the Middle ages and the Renaissance. Discover the traces of the city's past as you admire a square Saracen tower, the remains of the 16th century ramparts, and the town hall, formerly the bishop's palace. You will see medieval dwellings and superb private mansions (the Hôtel de Cabris, the Hôtel de Ponteves and the Court de Fontmichel) as well as elegant 18th century villas; not forgetting the wonderful Belle Epoque casino, which is now a conference centre.

The drive to Grasse takes 45 minutes

The drive to the airport takes 45 minutes

Time at leisure in Grasse; 1h30



## PORTOFINO, ITALY

**Trekking from San Fruttuoso**

Minimum 15 participants, maximum 30

This excursion is suitable for experienced hikers

€47

You will take the tender boat to Portofino pier where your guide will be waiting, before hopping on to the public ferry service to San Fruttuoso. During the trip your guide will tell you a bit about the area and the natural environment while you enjoy stunning views of the promontory.

San Fruttuoso, also known as San Fruttuoso di Camogli is a little jewel situated on a pristine bay between Portofino and Camogli. While scarcely more than a blip on the mountainous coastline, San Fruttuoso boasts a Benedictine monastery situated right on the beach and accessible only by foot or by sea. This fine 10th century abbey is dedicated to Saint Fruttuoso, a Catalan bishop martyred by the Roman emperor Valerian and burned at the stake. According to tradition Saint Fruttuoso appeared in a dream to five monks and told them where to bury his mortal remains and to this day his ashes are kept inside the church as a precious relic. The other attraction of San Fruttuoso, apart from the spectacular views and limpid blue sea, is the statue of "Christ of the Abyss". A wonderful bronze statue of Jesus Christ, arms outstretched in blessing. The statue was submerged in the Mediterranean Sea at a depth of 56ft (17 m) near the spot where Dario Gonzatti, the first Italian to use SCUBA gear, died in a diving accident in 1947. It has become a place of pilgrimage for divers from all over the world.

Before starting on the trek, you will have time to admire the abbey (from the outside) and will learn about the history of the village and its monastery.

The trek route goes through the National park, a nature conservation area. A dirt track climbs up the promontory through a shady forest of Holm oaks. At a height of approximately 250m the trail levels off offering fantastic views of the plunging cliffs and deep blue Mediterranean Sea. The vegetation is a mixture of evergreen Mediterranean shrubs and bushes and aromatic herbs. Flanking the southern slope of the promontory, the level trail ends just above Portofino. Don't forget your cameras because the trek offers some spectacular photo opportunities. The descent to Portofino is paved and overlooks the east side of the promontory and the beautiful Gulf of Tigullio.

The ferry boat ride takes 30 minutes

The hike from San Fruttuoso to Portofino takes 2h30 but depends on the group's pace

The hike includes a number of steep ascents and descents

The start of the trail is very steep : from sea level to 250m in 40 minutes

Hiking shoes recommended as the ground is uneven.

The tour is subject to weather conditions

**Kayak tour of Portofino**

Duration 2h30

Difficulty medium

Minimum 6 participants, maximum 25

€ 69

Our kayak tour is surely the best, most ecologically sound way of exploring the beauties of the Portofino promontory and the protected marine nature reserve. During the tour you will be accompanied by a kayak instructor and eco tour guide. The excursion starts with a 20 minute stroll along a path on the promontory which leads to sandy Niasca beach. Here you will start your kayak exploration of Portofino (1h30). Glide along one of the world's most beautiful coastlines and admire the craggy cliffs and limpid blue waters as you paddle your way to Portofino lighthouse. The scenery is breathtaking and there will be an opportunity to go swimming.

After a tender boat ride to the shore, you will walk to the end of Portofino village and follow a path along the promontory which leads down below the Hotel Splendido. The walk takes 20 minutes

You will be provided with all necessary equipment including water and a snack

Please bring sea shoes, sun glasses, sunscreen, hat and towel

Wear your bathing suit

Kayaking does not require any technical knowledge just some pleasant physical exercise

There is a 20 minute (approximately) walk each way and 1h30 kayaking.



### PROPRIANO, CORSICA

Once a simple fishing village founded by the Genoese in 1640, Propriano has developed into a dynamic little beach resort with a busy marina filled with exclusive yachts and fishing boats. Situated in the middle of the gulf of Valinco, the area offers both sandy beaches and magnificent mountain scenery.

### STINTINO, SARDINIA

Stintino is a small fishing village situated on the extreme northwestern point of Sardinia, jutting out into the sea towards Asinara. It was founded in 1885 by 45 fisher families who had to leave their home on Asinara island when the Italian government decided to use the land to set up a quarantine station and penal colony there.

The village has always been inextricably linked to the sea, and until the 1970's its chief activity was tuna fishing. The Museo della Tonnara (Tuna fishing museum) bears witness to the struggles of generations of fishermen trying to provide for their families and earn their living by catching the schools of tuna fish that follow the Mediterranean currents and processing the fish at the "tonnara".

In the early 20th century wealthy families from Sassari used to holiday here, but despite the tourist boom of the 1960's, Stintino has maintained its calm and peaceful exterior with cobbled paths, traditional low built houses and at its heart the parish church, the Chiesa dell'Immacolata Concezione. The main street is lined with shops, bars and trattorias where you can sample the local cuisine, based on fresh fish and seafood: octopus in garlic sauce, lobster soup and tuna roe are some traditional favourites.

Stintino is only 15 km distance from the island of Asinara and there is a ferry link between the two. Asinara is the second largest Sardinian island and the name, which means "place where donkeys live", refers to the most emblematic of its inhabitants, the famous wild white donkeys. The island was given natural park status in 1997 and this unspoilt environment is home to many endangered plant and animal species like the pink flamingo and the Sardinian Bugloss flower. After 115 years of isolation, Asinara is now easily accessible and visitors can enjoy its wild natural beauty.

### ASINARA ISLAND

Transport by zodiac and land rover

Minimum 24 participants, maximum 40

Duration 4 / 4h30

€117

The departure point for this excursion is Stintino jetty, where you will board a zodiac to take you to Fornelli Asinara pier. Here, land rovers will be waiting to take you on a tour of the island. You will pass by Fornelli maximum security prison which once housed Mafia bosses, Red brigade terrorists and members of the infamous Camorra. Luckily nowadays you are more likely to encounter one of the island's white donkeys or groups of wild horses roaming free. During this excursion you will discover the natural treasures of Asinara island, its extraordinary biodiversity, and learn about its history. We will set off on the water trail a dirt track around the west coast of Asinara, with beautiful views out to sea. At the top of the Fornelli hills you can see the remains of an old fortress, the "castellaccio", dating back from medieval times.

On the south east coast of the island you will see the Cala S. Andrea nature reserve. Access is forbidden, either by land or sea, so the area must be admired from a distance. It consists of a beautiful beach, surrounded by granite rocks and scrubland. Next stop is the narrowest point on the island known as the "Cala di Sgrombro", here you will see a rocky outcrop of stones known as the dwarves which is a nesting area for many different species of marine birds: Corsican gulls, Little Egrets and Grey Heron to name but a few. When we get to the central part of the island we will stop off at Campo Perdu, another abandoned prison. The building is now a riding school and you will see many wild horses and donkeys there. There is also a Sea Turtle recovery centre managed by the C.R.A.M.A. (Asinara Marine Animals Recovery Centre) which can be visited if the animals are well enough. The building used to be the lighthouse keeper's home.



We will then go to Cala Reale the marine quarantine station which was in use from the late 1800s to the early 1940s, before arriving at our final destination, Cala d'Oliva. This lovely little village with its white buildings and idyllic setting facing the Mediterranean and overlooked by an Aragonese watchtower from the 17th century is inhabited only by seasonal workers and park rangers; the original villagers left when the prison was built in 1885.

The tour includes a stop at one of the island's most beautiful beaches, perfect for swimming and snorkelling.

At the end of the tour you will return to Fornelli pier where the zodiac will be waiting to take you back to Stintino.

The transfer from Stintino to Asinara island will be by Zodiac (8nm) with a capacity for 12 passengers. The tour of the island will be by land rover.

You will be escorted by an authorised environmental guide

Bring a swimsuit and beach towel with you if you want to go swimming

Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, there will be limited walking on dirt tracks

### Nuraghe Palmavera & Alghero

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, no maximum

Duration 4h30

€ 60

Sardinia, with its 1800 km coastline, is known the world over as a fantastic holiday destination for water sports enthusiasts and sun seekers alike, offering vistas of unspoilt natural beauty as well as an advantageous geographical position. However Sardinia also boasts a rich and varied history in which the town of Alghero featured prominently. The Aragonesi landed on the coast of Alghero in 1353 and wrested the fortified town from the hands of the Dorian family from Genoa. The Catalan influence is still very strong in the town and can be found in its streets, shops, life style, cuisine and traditions. Even the local dialect is a variant of the Catalan language.

Your guide will be waiting to greet you at the pier and accompany you on the coach for the trip from the Gulf of Asinara to the Gulf of Porto Conte to visit the "Nuraghe Palmavera". Traces of human habitation in Sardinia date back to 4000 BC, and the Nuraghe of Palmavera were constructed by the Nuraghic people, a patriarchal warrior society that appeared in the area from 1500 BC. The Nuraghe consist of circular stone towers and dwellings surrounded by exterior fortifications and an ancient village, which is still being excavated.

After the visit you will proceed to Alghero for a short walking guided visit and some time at leisure

The drive to the Nuraghe takes 30 minutes, and you will spend 45 minutes on site.

The coaches cannot enter the old town of Stintino and the port area, so you will have to walk to the coach parking (400 meters walk - 10minutes)



## CALVI, CORSICA

**Sant' Antonino & Pigna authentic Corsican villages**

By air conditioned motor coach and on foot

Minimum 20 participants, maximum 44

Duration: 3 hours

€60

This excursion is the perfect way to enjoy one of Corsica's main attractions: its ruggedly beautiful scenery; winding roads will take you from one picturesque village to another.

The ancient circular village of Sant'Antonino, perched on a craggy rock overlooking the sea, is one of the oldest inhabited villages in Corsica and one of the highest. It is visible from miles around and offers superb 360° panoramic views. In the 9th century it was ruled by the Counts of Savelli who built the now-ruined castle in order to defend their clan. The narrow cobbled lanes, vaulted alleyways and neat stone houses have survived the passage of time and have changed very little over the past three hundred years. Sant' Antonino features in the list of "the most beautiful villages of France" and is highly prized by visitors for its spectacular views.

After a short visit of Sant' Antonino you will be driven to the hill top village of Pigna.

This delightful village in the heart of the Balagne region is built on a rocky promontory 224 m above sea level, situated at the foot of a mountain some 562m high. It is a veritable feast for the eyes with flower decked streets and an attractive village square. Pigna is dedicated to the pursuit of arts and crafts and a community of artists has settled there. It is the ideal place to buy some authentic Corsican souvenirs, made on site and sometimes before your very eyes.

You will spend some time in the village and then the coach will take you back to Calvi via the charming old villages of Corbara and Aregno.

Due to restricted access the coach will park below Sant'Antonino. The walk to the village is uphill over uneven and rough ground. Good shoes are a must.

Corsican roads are winding, so this is not the ideal tour for guests suffering from vertigo or car sickness

During the summer months heavy traffic can be expected, which may cause delays

This tour involves a lot of driving. You will spend approximately 30 minutes in each village

**E BIKE EXPERIENCE**

Minimum 8 participants, maximum 12

Duration 3 hours

€126

The bike tour starts directly from the port and proceeds along mostly tarmac roads for about 4km before going off the beaten track. The ride covers various different types of terrain including uphill stretches, downhill slopes and flat land. During the excursion there will be a photo opportunity and also a swim stop (weather and sea conditions permitting). Don't miss out on a relaxing dip in the crystal clear waters of the Mediterranean or, if you prefer, just sit back and enjoy the sea breezes.

The pace of the tour depends on participants; it is not meant to be a competition but an enjoyable outing for everybody

**REVELLATA – a Hike to the ends of the earth**

Nature walk

Minimum 8 participants, maximum 12

Duration 3H30

€40

The tour starts directly from the port and your destination is the lighthouse situated on the Punta de la Revellata. This 3 hour hike through breath-taking scenery is not to be missed. During the walk you will enjoy glorious views and see various cacti and endemic Mediterranean species of flora, some brightly coloured and strangely shaped. The Revellata peninsula is like being on the edge of the world. Access is via a coastal path and there are many beautiful creeks and secluded beaches along the way, perfect for cooling off with a dip in the pristine waters of the Mediterranean. The lighthouse itself is constantly visible, guiding your footsteps, and when you reach it you will be rewarded by marvellous views of the Mediterranean and the surrounding mountains. The return trip to Calvi is via a cliff top path over the peninsula

The walk is 15km long

Possible swimming stop on the way





## BANDOL, FRANCE

## « Douce France » - Living the Provençal Dream

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, maximum 35

Duration 3 hours

€ 69

The coach leaves Bandol taking the wine route. There will be a stop at a well-known vineyard (Domaine de Souviou or an equivalent estate) to taste some top-quality local wines. The Souviou estate is built around a beautiful 15th century bastide with its own adjacent chapel and surrounded by 79 acres of vineyard. The vineyards of the Bandol valley are protected by the Sainte Baume ridge on one side and the Mediterranean coast on the other and the unique climate produces some of France's best red, white and particularly rosé wines. The estate is also reputed for the quality of its olive oil; there are six thousand olive trees dotted over the domain and some of them are over 1000 years old. During your wine tasting session, you will sample red, white and rosé wines produced on the estate.

The coach will then head off to Le Castellet, a typical medieval Provençal hilltop village with a history spanning over 2000 years. This wooded hilltop has been home to Celts, Romans, Barbarians and Saracens. In 1212 it came under the rule of the Lords of Baux. They were succeeded in 1426 by the House of Anjou and in 1629 by the Lombards, who ruled over the territory until the French revolution. The Reign of Terror, as the revolutionary period is sometimes known, left its scars even 800 km away from Paris: the church was bricked up and the castle sold off to local people who established a school and an olive mill on the site. In 1923 the village was carefully restored, and you will see well-preserved ramparts, a 12th century church and a castle dating back to the 11th century. The walking tour will take you through the narrow medieval streets which lead to the castle.

There will be some leisure time, so you can explore the local arts and craft shops with their attractive displays of paintings and pottery.

## On top of the world - Cape Canaille scenic tour, Cassis &amp; wine tasting

By air-conditioned motor coach

Minimum 20 participants, maximum 35

Duration 4 hours

€ 79

Enjoy a scenic drive along the coast before arriving at the "Massif des Calanques" a national park combining the beauties of both land and sea. Breath taking, awe inspiring and magnificent are the adjectives most used to describe this unspoilt paradise. Discover Mediterranean scrubland, dazzling white limestone cliffs and Cape Canaille, the highest clifftop in France and the fourth highest in Europe. You will also see the famous Calanques, which are rather like Mediterranean fjords. These rocky canyons plunging into a turquoise sea create a dramatic landscape whose stunning beauty has earned it a place on the Unesco World Heritage list. There are many spectacular panoramic viewpoints along the coast road, and you will get stunning views over sheer cliffs, seeing the Calanques, Mount Puget and the islands between Marseille and Cassis. The most impressive view is to be had from the top of Cape Canaille; this lofty perch offers views of the Calanques and the picturesque town of Cassis.

Cassis is without doubt the quintessential provençal fishing village, with boats bobbing in the harbour and a bustling seafront lined with cafés. It is in fact so picture perfect: pastel coloured buildings, narrow streets, stone fountains in sun-drenched squares and a medieval castle overlooking the harbour, that it is like walking into a postcard. The writer Frédéric Mistral famously stated that "He who has seen Paris but not Cassis, has not seen anything" and judging from all the artists who have been inspired by the village: Derain, Matisse, Vlaminck and Dufy, to name but a few, many people would agree. Stroll along the sea front, and up cobblestone streets, admire picturesque houses decked with flowers. browse around the boutiques or just relax at an outside café and watch the world go by.

After visiting Cassis we will take the Bandol Wine route and stop off at the Domaine de Souviou (or similar), a wine estate which produces some of the best rosé wines in Provence.

This very beautiful Provençal winery consists of a 15th century bastide and a chapel surrounded by 79 acres of vineyard and 6000 olive trees, some of which are over a thousand years old.

Some very fine wine, award winning wine is produced on the estate and your tasting session will include a selection of red, white and rosé wines.



## SAINT TROPEZ

Up until 1958 Saint Tropez was just a sleepy, picturesque fishing village; then the legendary couple Brigitte Bardot and Roger Vadim arrived, bringing with them a touch of glamour and changing the place beyond all recognition.

However the history of St Tropez goes way back, well before the era of movie stars, luxury yachts and glamour girls in bikinis. It was once a place of Christian pilgrimage, honouring the martyrdom of a young Roman soldier named Tropes. Tropes openly professed his Christian beliefs and was beheaded by the authorities and cast adrift in a small boat which eventually washed ashore at the place now known as St Tropez.

In the 1800's St Tropez became a centre for art and culture with the arrival of the French writer Guy de Maupassant and the Impressionist painter Paul Signac who brought with them a host of talented contemporaries, including Matisse.

Today St Tropez is famous the world over for being one of the most glamorous locations on the French Riviera. While it is mostly known for its beaches and port filled with millionaire's yachts, it also boasts tree lined squares, pastel coloured houses, chic boutiques and quaint cafés serving a delicious local pastry the "Tarte Tropezienne".

NO TOUR OFFERED DURING THE « VOILES DE ST TROPEZ » EVENT

### Fruit of the vine tour

Walking tour

Minimum 12 participants, maximum 14

Duration approximately 2h30

€ 69

St Tropez and the French Riviera immediately conjure up images of glamorous starlets, yachts and fashionable hot spots, but there is much more to it than that, as our wine expert guide will show you.

St Tropez was, and still is if you know where to look, an authentic Provençal village with a rich cultural heritage. Eva our knowledgeable wine expert is a member of many prestigious Wine Brotherhoods: "Les Compagnons du Beaujolais", "les Chevaliers Rabelaisiens" and "les Chevaliers de la Méduse", so she is ideally suited to leading you on a voyage of discovery under the auspices of Bacchus, as well as showing you the architectural treasures of St Tropez.

The wine tasting will take place in a local wine bar where you will learn about the history, grape varieties and production of local wines and the determining influence of the Mediterranean Sea. You will also have the pleasure of putting theoretical knowledge into practice with a comprehensive tasting of red, white and rosé wines accompanied by cheese and snacks.

